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ServeOhio Funds 19 Statewide Service Projects Taking Place on Global Youth Service Day

These grants support more than 1,300 volunteers engaging in local community service projects across 17 Ohio cities

COLUMBUS, OH – ServeOhio, the Governor-appointed commission on service and volunteerism, announces grant awards to support 19 local Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) projects taking place April 28 – 30, 2023. GYSD is the largest service event in the world dedicated to the contributions that children and youth make 365 days of the year. The grants ServeOhio is providing will fund service projects in 17 Ohio cities led by more than 1,300 volunteers.

The 19 GYSD projects will engage Ohio youth volunteers to create or improve community assets or infrastructure. Additionally, the projects will incorporate an education component to create long-term, sustainable change on issues and with people.

“It’s so inspiring to see the seeds of service begin to grow in our younger generations,” said William Hall, executive director for ServeOhio. “We are proud to support the service of our youth as we continue making strides toward a better Ohio.”

ServeOhio awards nearly \$16,000 in grants to support these projects with help from their 2022-2023 partner, American Electric Power Foundation. This year’s recipients include:

- **Akron Interfaith Immigration Advocates, Akron** – 15 youth volunteers will clean and organize a local resource center’s food pantry and clothing distribution center.
- **Alcoholism Council of Butler County, OH, Hamilton** – 15 youth volunteers will plant native flora to create a native seed nursery.
- **Bunsold After School Enrichment (BASE), Marysville** – 20 youth volunteers will host a Wrench-A-Thon providing maintenance on bikes.
- **Community Refugee & Immigration Services, Columbus** – 30 volunteers will beautify a local church that provides resources for new American families.
- **Cultivate CDC, Columbus** – 45 youth volunteers will participate in a litter clean-up, garden preparation, and beautification of a local green space.
- **I Know I Can, Columbus** – More than 30 youth volunteers will participate in a beautification day at a local middle school.
- **Integrated Services for Behavioral Health, Nelsonville** – 50 youth volunteers will rebuild a Gaga Ball ring at a drop-in center for at-risk youth.
- **Ohio Valley Youth Network, Stuebenville** – 50 youth volunteers will put together and deliver food boxes for families of individuals with cancer and for youth with limited food access.

- **Preble County Historical Society, Eaton** – 20 youth volunteers will expand a trial to become a walking and fitness trial with exercise stops.
- **Sojourners Care Network, Athens** – 15 youth volunteers will design and paint a mural focused on civil rights and acceptance of LGBTQ+ youth at an at-risk youth center.
- **To the Moon & Back Foundation, Inc., Lorain** – 225 youth volunteers will beautify their school and participate in coursework focused on the importance of taking care of their school.
- **United Way of Van Wert County, Van Wert** – 20 youth volunteers will build and beautify a courtyard at their school.
- **University of Mount Union, Alliance** – 30 volunteers will create a children's play space and raised garden beds at a community center.
- **Village of Chauncey, Chauncey**– 50 you volunteer will plant trees and create a native plants garden in a community park and participate in a cleanup of an adjacent bikeway.
- **Village of Lakemore, Akron** – 20 youth volunteers will learn about composting and build a wood stationary composter.
- **West Clermont Local School District, Cincinnati** – 60 youth volunteers will clean and beautify their school's entrance and grounds.
- **Westwood Right Incorporation, Dayton** – More than 100 volunteers will participate in a anti-litter campaign and clean up.
- **Wings of Hope, Recovery Services, Portsmouth** – 90 volunteers will clean and prepare a local park for springtime and create inspirational, painted rocks.
- **Zane Grey Intermediate and Elementary Schools, Zanesville** – 20 high school students will lead more than 400 middle and Intermediate school students in building accessible garden beds and beautifying and repairing the gardens.

In addition to these service projects funded by ServeOhio, thousands of individuals across the state will volunteer in their communities on April 28-30, 2023 in recognition of GYSD. Volunteers interested in serving in their community for GYSD or at any time throughout the year can visit [Get Connected](#), ServeOhio's recently launched statewide volunteer engagement platform.

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About ServeOhio

ServeOhio, Ohio's Governor-appointed commission on service and volunteerism, strengthens Ohio communities through AmeriCorps and volunteer engagement. Through programs and initiatives funded and supported by ServeOhio, thousands of Ohioans of all ages engage in and are recognized for their service. Interested participants may learn more about ServeOhio at serve.ohio.gov, or on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).